

**CLAIMS:**

What is claimed is:

1. A method in a data processing system for linking panels in a graphical user interface, the method

5 comprising:

creating a set of data objects for a panel, wherein each data object within the set of data objects is associated with a data type; and

10 creating a set of navigation objects for the panel, wherein each navigation object within the set of navigation objects is associated with an event, a target object associated with the event, and a target object action associated with the target object in which the target object action is applied to the target object.

15 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the set of data objects includes at least one of a text field, a combo box, and a radio button.

20 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the set of navigation objects includes at least one of a button, a slider, and a scroll bar.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the event is a right mouse click.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the event is a depression of a function key.

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6. The method of claim 1, wherein an identification of the set of data objects and associations are stored in a list.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein an identification of the set of navigation objects and associations are stored in a list.

8. The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
creating a set of information objects for the panel.

9. A panel for use in a graphical user interface, the panel comprising:  
a set of data objects for a panel;  
a set of navigation objects for the panel;  
a first list of data objects within the set of data objects, wherein the first list contains an identification of a data type for each data object within the first list; and  
a second list of navigation objects within the set of navigation objects, wherein the second list includes an event, a target object associated with the event, and a target object action associated with the target object in which the target object action is applied to the target object for each navigation object within the list.

10. The panel of claim 9 further comprising:  
a set of information objects.

11. A data processing system comprising:  
a bus system;  
a communications unit connected to the bus system;

a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and

a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of

5 instructions to create a set of data objects for a panel, wherein each data object within the set of data objects is associated with a data type; and create a set of navigation objects for the panel, wherein each navigation object within the set of navigation objects is associated  
10 with an event, a target object associated with the event, and a target object action associated with the target object in which the target object action is applied to the target object.

12. A data processing system for linking panels in a graphical user interface, the data processing system comprising:

first creating means for creating a set of data objects for a panel, wherein each data object within the set of data objects is associated with a data type; and

20 second creating means for creating a set of navigation objects for the panel, wherein each navigation object within the set of navigation objects is associated with an event, a target object associated with the event, and a target object action associated with the target  
25 object in which the target object action is applied to the target object.

13. The data processing system of claim 12, wherein the set of data objects includes at least one of a text field, a combo box, and a radio button.

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14. The data processing system of claim 12, wherein the set of navigation objects includes at least one of a button, a slider, and a scroll bar.

15. The data processing system of claim 12, wherein the event is a right mouse click.

16. The data processing system of claim 12, wherein the event is a depression of a function key.

17. The data processing system of claim 12, wherein an identification of the set of data objects and associations are stored in a list.

18. The data processing system of claim 12, wherein an identification of the set of navigation objects and associations are stored in a list.

19. The data processing system of claim 12 further comprising:

third creating means for creating a set of information objects for the panel.

20. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for linking panels in a graphical user interface, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for creating a set of data objects for a panel, wherein each data object within the set of data objects is associated with a data type; and

second instructions for creating a set of navigation objects for the panel, wherein each navigation object within the set of navigation objects is associated with

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an event, a target object associated with the event, and a target object action associated with the target object in which the target object action is applied to the target object.

5 21. The computer program product of claim 20, wherein the set of data objects includes at least one of a textfield, a combo box, and a radio button.

22. The computer program product of claim 20, wherein the set of navigation objects includes at least one of a  
10 button, a slider, and a scroll bar.

23. The computer program product of claim 20, wherein the event is a right mouse click.

24. The computer program product of claim 20, wherein the event is a depression of a function key.

15 25. The computer program product of claim 20, wherein an identification of the set of data objects and associations are stored in a list.

26. The computer program product of claim 20, wherein an identification of the set of navigation objects and  
20 associations are stored in a list.

27. The computer program product of claim 20 further comprising:

third instructions for creating a set of information objects for the panel.

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